

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-18, 22, 28, 30, 32, and 34-38 are now pending in the application. Claims 11-18, 34, 36-37, and 39-55 have been allowed. Claims 56, 59-60, and 63 have been rejected and Claims 57-58 and 61-62 are objected to. Claims 57, 61 and 63 have been amended herein. Claims 1-2, 4-10, 22, 28, 30, 32, 35, 38, 56, and 59 have been cancelled. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 56, 59, 60, and 63 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Van Osenbruggen (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0131267). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

However, in an effort to expedite prosecution, Applicant has cancelled Claims 56 and 60. In addition, Applicant has amended the parent of Claim 59, namely Claim 57, and Claim 63 has been amended to depend on Claim 61. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the present rejection are respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 56, 59, 60, and 63 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Spies (U.S. Patent No. 4,120,093) in view of Lohrmann (U.S. Patent No. 5,145,278). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

However, in an effort to expedite prosecution, Applicant has cancelled Claims 56 and 60. In addition, Applicant has amended the parent of Claim 59, namely Claim 57, and Claim 63 has been amended to depend on Claim 61. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the present rejection are respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner states that Claims 11-18, 34, 36-37, and 39-55 are allowed. The Examiner further states that Claims 57, 58, 61, and 62 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicant has amended Claims 57 and 61 to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, Claims 57, 58, 61, and 62 should now be in condition for allowance.

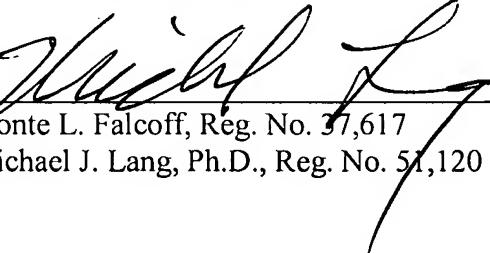
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite

prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 9, 2007

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